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California a Monument of Imperialism.

Fifty years ago to-day California was and romantic history sticks to the memory even of persons who know small history else, and is especially treasured by the survivors of the pioneers who sought the new land of promise in the early fortles. The Forty-niners were but juniors compared with these, but the discovery of gold in California was an event so great to civilization and brought such swarms of emigrants from many regions of the world that the coming of the gold seekers must remain the central fact of California annals. Yet, properly speaking, gold was but an episode. Vast agricultural resources, fruits and wines, manufactures, commerce destined to immense increase as a result of the same process of expanwion that added California to the United States, are the substantial material glories of the fifty-year-old State.

From the days of the desperadoes and the vigilance committees to the days of the splendid California universities how short the time seems and how great the change! It was only the other day that TERRY, the slayer of BRODERICK, was "Duke" GWIN, one of California's first Senators, and so long a famous figure | had occasion to talk to an assemblage of In Washington and at home, was a fa millar sight on Broadway a few years ago. Men who went to the Pacific in an ox cart are riding back and forth now in their private cars. Yet the wonderful transformation of the old Spanish and Mexican community in the last fifty years is likely to be nothing compared with the development of Cal-Ifornia in the fifty years to come.

But it is as the child of expansion, the product of imperialism, that California is now most interesting. Commercialism and greed and militarism and the lust of conquest won her for the United States. STOCK-TON and FREMONT seized her in 1848. In 1848 her inhabitants were purchased, as Col. BRYAN would say, for so much a head. She was governed by a military Governor, Gen. RILEY, a satrap of the despot Polk and subsequently of the despot TAYLOR, until Dec. 20, 1849, although the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was signed Feb. 2, 1848. The military Governor, under direction from the despot at Washington, levied contributions on the inhabitants of the conquered territory. They were taxed but not represented The consent of the Mexican and Indian population, then greater than the immigrant population, was not asked before or after the transfer of sovereignty was made.

In short, California is a magnificent monument of imperialism.

A London View of Mr. Tesla's Proposal.

As might have been expected, Mr. TESLA'S suggestion of a method by which electricity may be transmitted to great distances for lighting and heating as well as dynamic purposes, has excited great interest in England, where the current pri es of coal are regarded with grave misgiving. Welsh coal now costs at Cardiff, its port of shipment, about \$7, while North of England coal cannot be laid down at its shipping point, Newcastle, for much, if any, less than \$6. Such prices obviously threaten to deprive England of her export trade in coal, which, last year, was valued at upward of \$43,000,000, exclusive of the quantity sold to ocean-going steamers for steam-generating uses on their outward voyages. This is by no means the most ominous outcome of the situation, however. As the London Spectator points out, the recent rise in the price of English coal portends lower wages to all British workingmen but colliers, and more men thrown out of work. As the cost of each industry becomes greater, owing to the larger sum required for the purchase of the power-creating combustible, the smaller factories will be closed one by one, and the larger factories will reduce their output. So far as producers are concerned, what dear coal means is ruin to small employers, diminished profit to large employers, and less work with less pay for the men employed. To consumers, on the other hand, it means higher prices for all manufactured products, although to the poor even a slight increase in the price of necessary

articles is a hardship. An increase in the cost of clothing, for instance, can be met on the part of the workingman only by buying inferior articles or by pinching in his food. Still another privation is unavoidable, if the present prices of coal in England continue; as they must, unless English railways lower the charges for transportation, which nobody expects to see them do. Throughout Great Britain, during the winter, fires are s necessary of health, and, in a large part and rudely printed somehow sink deeper of the island, a necessary of life. It is certain, however, that, when the price of coal passes a certain figure, even the preservation of life will have to be disregarded have obtained more correct answers to by the poor. Warmth is a luxury for which his Biblical questions than he did from his people of limited means cannot pay more than a certain price.

If, then, Mr. TESLA'S scheme be practicable, two indispensable things may be secured by the mass of England's population, namely, cheapness of manufactured products and cheapness of warmth. He oposes, it will be remembered, to avert the loss of power which has been hitherto the chief difficulty in the way of transmitting the electrical current over long distances. The conducting metal gradually becomes hot, and the heat develops resistance to the transmission of the electrical current. Now, it has been proved that, of the conducting metal is cooled by liquid gas, a signal diminution of resistance to electricity takes place Applying this catablished fact, Mr. TESLA would place some six feet below the surface of the ground a metal tube, immersed in a trough containing sawdust and water, and he would

electricity transmitted by this method, no appreciable amount would be wasted on the way. The power derived in the first instance from Niagara would be car- time at least. ried as far as the trough went, and be practically as effective at the end of its journey as at the beginning. As regards cost, it has been calculated that, with established conditions and prices, electricity generated at Niagara could be delivered at Albany, 320 miles away, at a cheaper rate than steam power can be generated in the last-

named city with coal at \$3 a ton. The Spectator holds that an incalculable improvement would be effected in the conditions of British life if Mr. TESLA'S method of transmitting electricity should prove practicable, and should be adopted on a large scale in Great Britain. Electric lighting would be so cheapened that householders would no more be poisoned by gas, or run the risk of fire from kerosene lamps. Electric heating would be introduced, and place Englishmen as regards the air in their houses on a level with the inhabiadmitted into the Union. Her stirring tants of Southern Europe. In a word, light and warmth would be supplied with as much ease as water, and possibly at a smaller cost.

As all countries, however, which now use coal for heating and for the generation of power, and gas or petroleum for lighting, would be at liberty to employ Mr. Tesla's process of utilizing electricity for those purposes, England would, of course, lose the predominant position which the possession of coal has long given her. But England is in imminent danger of losing that position, as it is, owing to the fact that England's coal exists only in limited quantities and can now be produced only at a relatively high cost, whereas the United States have an inexhaustible supply of the combustible, and can afford to sell it at a far lower price.

The "Old Red Schoolhouse" and Modern Schools.

In the Old South Meeting House in Boston the other day Mr. FRANK A. HILL, in time past a successful teacher and now Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, young people about "The Progress of Education in the Nineteenth Century." It was a sensible talk and, bearing in mind the place and the official position of the speaker, what was said could not but excite the pride of the hearers.

Comparisons were unavoidable, and Mr. HILL pointed out the advantages of the modern buildings with their improved sanitary arrangements and laboratories and fine furniture and aids to teaching and superior schoolbooks, over the old district schoolhouse with its wooden benches and solitary blackboard. He told how well organized things are nowadays; how the teaching is the same for all the schools in a town; how every child has a right to a high school education; how girls have the same opportunities as boys; how nearly all teachers have a normal school training; how the child's field of knowledge has expanded beyond the three Rs so as to include drawing and music and the construction of things" and nature study. Countless new opportunities, but all as dependent on the use the boys and girls of 1900 chose to put them to, Mr. HILL took care to say, as the far more limited chances of 1800 were on the choice of the youth of that day. And all that has been accomplished is little compared with what remains to do

But comparisons are always unpleasant, and, sparingly as Mr. HILL touched on the "sentiment" for bygone days, some of his ments on things that are past may arous regrets, if not dissent with his opinions. Of course we know ever so much more than our forefathers did, and it would be shameful if at the end of the century we had not advanced beyond the point where we stood at the beginning, and equally, of course, the changes have been inevitable. But has it been all gain? That " little red schoolhouse," for instance, and the district system of which Mr. HILL speaks with hardly veiled contempt, with its lack of discipline, its untrained teachers and its refractoriness to procrustean standards, somehow did a great work for Massachusetts and for our country and is still doing it. It could adapt itself to the needs and the powers of the community for one thing. It developed character and individuality in both teacher and taught and made them know each other in a way which, we fear, is impossible with the more perfect machinery of modern school methods. There was more study of the individual boy that had to be taught and perhaps whipped; he had not become a laboratory specimen for the expounding of scientific pedagogic theory. The educational results of the old dis-

trict school, too, though they seem ragged by the side of what our modern schools accomplish, were not altogether despicable. There was no "nature study" then, no properly trained normal school teacher with text book and frogs and clams and sea urchins and flowers to dissect before the pupils' eyes. But didn't the boys who went birdnesting and robbed apple orchards and smoked sweet fern and bayberry and hooked jack to go a-fishing know something more of nature than their more scientifle offspring? Will the Harvard Committee on English Composition be able soon to raise the language of the modern schools to the level of the district school English of Lincoln's speech at Gettysburg? And did not the teachings of the New England Primer "as pedagogically unsound as it was absurdly illustrated into the youthful mind than those of their modern substitutes " in every way superb We fancy that President THWING would latter-day college students from the generation that was brought up on:

"ZACCHEUS he Did climb the tree

Our Lord to see. The old-style teaching seemed to soak in

somehow. As the country has grown crowded the district schools have had to go with the town meeting and the town pump and the the open lots, and it is futile to regret the day and are still doing it where circumstances allow. In giving way to superior organization they have yielded to practical needs that were unavoidable, but something valuable has nevertheless been lost. The town system has taken the place of the district system in Massachusetts, and may have to yield to State schools in turn and perhaps in time to a national coarry this tube as far from the source of school system. The excellent reforms in intelligent practical men of the Southern spower as might be wanted; across a whole stituted by Hongoz Many have their dark States generally know, that RETAN'S CT7

under the Atlantic or Pacific Ocean. Were setts to go to sleep for a while confiding in the perfection of their educational methods while other cities and States caught up with them and got ahead, for a

> It is only recently that educators have waked up to the fact that the instruction of the great mass of the children ends with the grammar school, and that they are then turned out upon the world with little beyond their natural abilities that can help them to a livelihood, except as clerks and store attendants. When that was found out the manual training schools, of which there are far too few, were instituted. They are the first scholastic recognition of peculiar American aptitudes. Mr. HILL does not seem to be fully awake to this. As an official custodian of school property and enforcer of discipline he declares with complacency that "the old whittling, hacking and scribbling mania that desecrated so many of our old school buildings has become practically extinct." As well say that human nature is extinct in Massachusetts. Mr. Hill can find American names scribbled on top of the Pyramids, and as for whittling, what is the American boy without his jackknife? It is that jackknife first used on the school benches that has given us the cotton gin, and the sewing machine and the electric motor and all our mechanical improvements and best of all the American mechanic, ready to turn his hand to anything. It may be that the incisive energy of

> Massachusetta youth has been turned in part into the more regular channels of the manual training school. It may be too that the substitution of pecuniary for corporal punishment acts as a deterrent in that economical State. The boy who is willing to risk a thrashing for carving his initials in forbidden places may hesitate to endanger his pocket money or to meet a parent who has been muleted. We rather guess, however, that if Mr. HILL should inquire at Harvard or at Yale he would find that even in the higher education the jackknife still cuts its way into desk and wall. As for the paint brush, ask the statues of JOHN HARVARD OF BENJAMIN SILLIMAN.

> Modern education is a great thing but there are limits to what it can do. When it shall have trained the Yankee schoolboy so that he will not or cannot whittle. in school or out. New England will have survived its usefulness. With all deference to Mr. Hill, we doubt if his model schools can teach Young America not to whittle.

The Ring in the Hon. David B Hill's Nostrils.

Mr. HILL's speech at Herkimer on Friday, strange to say, made a specialty of government by injunction and the Debs issue. He revived the anarchistic cry of 1896 against the Federal courts for their part in maintaining order and suppressing riot. He declared that the powers of the Federal courts ought to be curtailed by law. That there may be no misunderstanding we quote Mr. HILL's language:

"The abuses which have obtained in some of our ourts, especially the Federal courts in the Western States, in the administraton of the law relating to the enforcement of injunctions and punishment for contempts of court have long called for legislative the evils complained of, proposes a remedy in the enactment of a bill which once passed the United States Senate, but which has ever since failed in a Republican House of Representatives, whereby the rights of citizens may be more effectually protected and the injustice and hardship which have existed, under what is popularly known as 'government by injunction,' may be hereafter prevented I have not time in these hasty remarks to enter more fully into this subject, but shall take occasion to do so hereafter when I speak in other parts of the State and country."

When Mr. Hill refers with approva to the Democratic platform's demand for the curtailment of the powers of the Federal courts, he is referring to the Chicago platform of 1896. In the Kansas City platform of 1900 there is no specific demand for such legislation, except as it is implied in the general reaffirmation of the platform of four years ago, and in the mere statement that "we are opposed to government by injunction." This shows that Mr. HILL now fully recognizes the binding force of the party declarations of 1896 upon him as an individual Democrat. The plank on "government by injunction" which he approves and supports is this:

"We denounce arbitrary interference by Federal authorities in local affairs as a violation of the Con free institutions, and we especially object to government by injunction as a new and highly dangerou form of oppression by which the Federal Judges, in contempt of the laws of the States and the rights of ettizens, become at once legislators, judges and executioners; and we approve the bill passed at the las session of the United States Senate and now pending in the House of Representatives relative to contempts in Federal courts, and providing for trials by jury

Mr. HILL refused to accept this plank at Chicago. Three months after Mr. BRYAN's defeat at the polls, in discussing the causes of that defeat, Mr. HILL remarked in the Forum concerning this very plank:

extent to which the Federal Government may interfere in local affairs in States even for the avowed purpose of the enforcement of Federal laws. . . . position upon the questions of the enforcement of law and order, the suppression of violence, and the due maintenance of the proper authority of the General Government against domestic resistance - which appeal so strongly to the American heart and conscience - but this vague, unfortunate and ill-advised plank, under the peculiar circumstances existinggave the opposition an advantage which they readily utilized, and thereby added to the burdens of an al ready overburdened and severely handlcapped party. No pretext or excuse should have been afforded the Republicans for making against the Democracy the cruel charge of countenancing anarchism and law-

Thus we let Mr. HILL himself answer Mr. Hill. Perhaps he will reply again to himself when he goes further into the subject, in his speeches in other parts of the State and country.

Mobile's Interests and Its Politics.

The Daily Register of Mobile published recently a "trade edition," devoted especially to showing the prosperous business condition of that old and interesting Alabama port, and, very naturally, merchants of the town are sending copies of the paper as an advertisement of the progress of Mobile" and a "correct picture of Mobile's selectmen and overseers of the poor and industry, trade and commerce." "Everything that helps Mobile," says truly the change. They all did noble work in their Daily Register, "helps each of Mobile's citizens."

It is astonishing, therefore, to find that that paper, which shares with the enlightened world the conviction of the necessity to trade of the preservation of the gold standard, is working politically to check that progress and substitute for it reaction and depression by supporting BRYAN and the silver standard. It knows, as the more ontinent, for instance, or, for that matter, side, too. They led Boston and Massachus of "imperialism" is a mere humber issue

and that 16 to 1 is the only real issue represented by him, yet it is for his election though only by his defeat in 1900 would be assured a continuance of the prosperity which Mobile is now enjoying because of

his defeat in 1896. If the Daily Register of Mobile agreed with the Richmond Times that regard for material interests is a base consideration in politics, this contradiction in it might be explainable, but, so far from feeling in that way, it holds that it is the duty of every Mobilian "to have an interest in the upbuilding of the city," and that he ought to contribute all in his power to the general prosperity. How, then, can it justify itself in supporting a political policy which, as a gold paper, it knows to be destructive

for Mobile? Mobile and Alabama, if they obeyed reason and considered their welfare, would be as solid against BRYAN as is Vermont. In 1896, however, Alabama gave BRYAN two-thirds of its vote and he carried Mobile by a large majority, but they were rescued from the business disaster they then invited because of the greater intelligence and less prejudice of other cities and States. Now when the election of President McKinley has brought to Mobile a prosperity so notable that to celebrate it justly and stimulate it further the leading daily newspaper of the city has issued a special "trade edition." the same paper is working to destroy it by advocating the election of BRYAN and the consequent triumph of a silver policy against which its judgment revolts as ruinous!

The Bryan Speer at History.

BRYAN is either fundamentally ignorant of his country's history or he is shamefully trying to mislead public sentiment. He accuses the Republicans of being in the wrong and revolutionary in buying the inhabitants of the Philippines at so much per head, although there have in the past been five great national purchases of the same nature, chiefly under Democratic Presidents.

In 1803 JEFFERSON paid \$15,000,000 for Louisiana. That was a higher price per head, if the bargain is to be so described than was given for the Filipinos.

In 1819 Gen. Jackson gave \$5,000,000 for Florida. This also exceeded Philippine quotations.

In 1848 President Polk paid \$18,250,000 for New Mexico and California. In 1853 President PIERCE paid \$10,000,000

for the Gadsden territory. In 1867 President Johnson paid \$7,200,000 for Alaska.

In all, prior to the purchase of the Philip pines, we paid about \$56,000,000 for new territory, in none of which was the inhabitants' consent to be governed ever asked for, and in none of which, when consent was forcibly refused, did the authority of the United States fail to be upheld by the occupant of the White House and the military forces under his command.

This Democratic assault upon the present Administration, which is following bravely in the footsteps of its illustrious predecessors in expanding American territory, is a dastardly pretence, without the shadow of historical justification. To the Bryanites it is a mask for free silver. To faithless gold Democrata it is a mask for Bryanism.

How can any farmer be a Republicant-Col. BRYAN at Morgan's Grove. Your curiosity will be riqued still more when you hear from Kansas next November

The Hon. JOHN WAR WICE DANIEL of Vir ginia doesn't encourage the Peerless. "I cannot see," he says, "that BRYAN has more than a fighting chance." Now a fighting chance doesn't amount to much. Mr. DANIEL might at least have said that "if the election were t held to-morrow BRYAN would win

Who will get the more votes, the Hon. DONEL SON CAFFERY of Louisiana, National candidate for President, or the Hon. SETH W. ELLIS. Union Reform candidate for President?

There are questions that are greater than a full dinner pail. -Col. BRYAN at Wheeling. To be sure. It will not do to put the victuals above the man. Buckle your belt tighter, What is the use of eating? Starve and be happy, if Aguinaldo can have plenty of swag and gold whistles.

The "Bryan Videts" of Indianapolis "call upon all American citizens who love their country and their freedom to assist in securing victory for the Democracy." But how can American citizens who love their freedom trust the Videts, whose name suggests not only militarism but spelling reform?

It is interesting to know through the latest Report of the Geological Survey that natural gas, though greatly reduced in quantity, bids fair to be a power of much importance for years to come. The long, continued drain is felt in nearly all the fields, but many of the companies are keeping up a full supply to their consumers. Not a few companies have calculated, from time to time, that there was probably not a year's supply remaining to them; but by extending their pipe lines to new fields they have secured greatly enlarged supplies. The time cannot be far distant when the

present gas field will become exhausted. But new discoveries are occasionally made. sas has recently developed considerable new gas territory. The value of the natural gas produced in Ohlo began to decline in 1892, but the decline was arrested in 1898 when the product was worth a third of a million dollars more than in 1897 on account of the increased production in the Lancaster field, where many new and vigorous wells were developed. There is also the possibility that deeper drilling will tap new reservoirs, and important discoveries may be made in territory not yet adequately explored. Though the value of the natural gas produced in this country in 1898 was about \$7,000,000 less than in 1888 it had still large conomic importance, as was shown by the fact that the estimated value of the coal and wood it displaced in 1898 was over \$18,000,000.

The largest use of our natural gas is to supply heat and light for domestic purposes. It is found in many thousands of homes in the western parts of New York and Pennsylvania, northern Indiana, northwestern West Virginia. northeastern and northwestern Kentucky and southeastern Kansas. It is also used, to a smaller extent, for domestic purposes, in Texas, Utah, California, Colorado, Illinois and Missouri. Its use for industrial purposes did not include quite 1,200 establishments in 1898 and its restricted consumption in this field will, of course, tend to prolong the life of the gas wells. A recent writer in Cassier's Magazine advises that the consumption of natural gas by large manufactories be limited and that t be reserved rather for small industries and domestic purposes in order to retard the exhaustion of the subterranean reservoirs.

The statistics of production by no means include the whole amount, for a great deal of gas is consumed inside the gas belts that is not reported. On the whole, the condition of the industry is very favorable in spite of the fact that its ultimate extinction is certain. The fact is very satisfactory that the consumption of natural gas, in the past few years, has been far more economical than in the early years of its use. A given amount of effective work is now performed with less than one-half the quantity of gas that was required at the

THE CHINESE SITUATION.

The situation is by no means so satisfactory is it appeared to be twenty-four hours ago, the uncertainty being aggravated by the delay of the British Government in giving practical expression to its policy The delay arises from the fact that the British Prime Minister is on a vacation in the Vosges and does not return to London until some time during the coming week. In the absence of any definite declaration by the British Foreign Office, it is only to be expected that other Governments should withhold specific statements of their intentions. The most hopeful sign of a non-aggressive spirit among the Powers is the report that the Japanese and other marines that had been landed at Amoy were withdrawn on Thursday. This however, is only a minor detail, the main question of the continued occupation or evacuation of Pekin remaining in suspense. It cannot, however, be allowed to drag on indefinitely, for the severe winter of northern China is approaching, and it will be necessary for a decision to be come to in order that due provision may be made for our troops in the event of their having to pass the cold season in the Province of Chi-li.

time it is reasonable to expect that the British

Government will have come to some conclusion as to its course, and that, if then, it is found that any Power is to withdraw from Pekin, this coun try will immediately order the recall of our troops from there. In the meanwhile the State Department has taken steps to enable it to enter into direct relations with the Chinese Govern ment. The Chinese Minister at Washingto has communicated with Li Hung Chang with this object, and there is a prospect that our Government may open early negotiations for a settlement of its claims and the protection of American interests in its own way, with out reference to any of the other Powers, should the present absence of agreement among them ntinue. Two things, however, have to be waited for during a reasonable period, to determine the action of our Government; one is the enunciation of its policy by the British Government, and the other is the result of the communications between France and Russia consequent on the reply made by the State Department to the proposal of the French Government for a simultaneous withdrawal of he American, French and Russian troops from Pekin, made through its Charge d'Affaires Washington. The fact that it has been found necessary to take very decided steps in anticipation of disagreement among the Powers is an indication that matters are not going a smoothly as is desirable.

IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The turning movement of Gen Ian Bamilton by the Beifast-Lydenburg road has forced the Boers out of the positions on the Machadodorp road where they held Gen. Buller in check The Boer forces have divided, a portion going Krügerspost, fifteen miles north Lydenburg with their stores, ammunition and guns, while the remainder have gone east to positions on the Spitzkop covering the road to Nelspruit on the Delagoa Bay railway. The two ex-Presidents are reported to have fled. but from where and in what direction is not stated. Ohrigstadt now becomes the centre of the new defence unless it is decided to retire to Leydsdorp and the alpine regions of the great and little Letaba in the Zoutspanberg. The despatch from Portugal of another battalion of troops to Delagoa Bay has probably some-

thing to do with an expected trek from the Transvaal across the frontier. South of the Vaal the British have found it expedient to withdraw the garrison from Ladybrand, the scattering of the British forces having emboldened the Boers to attack the waterworks near Bloemfontein. There has seen some fighting at Wakkerstroom, the Boers retiring northeastward toward Barberton, and there are continued attacks on the railway lines about Johannesburg and east of Pretoria. Gen. De Wet is now said to be in the hills in the neighborhood of Johannesburg with some 1,500 men, part belonging to Commandant Theron's commando. Theron himself is reported to have been killed, a body having been found after a fight near Krügersdorp with letters to his address from Gen. De Wet. Lord Roberts reports that scarcely a day or night without attacks and accidents on the

Eagles and Kingfishers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I AM tempted to seize the oceasion of Mr. M. Handvill's letter to you about his "eagle" in your issue of Aug. At to tell a few things about the birds he speaks of and to beg him not to sacrifice our kingfishers to fee

his raccoons. Herons, fish-hawks and kingfishers work very hard and make many failures in their struggle to catch rey enough.

This is easily verified by watching them at their work, and is sufficient proof that they subsist mainly on the poorest and most sluggish species of fish, so commonly found in their stomachs, which are not only generally less valuable as food for people, but are by far the greatest enemies of the nobler fish. devouring their spawn in vast amounts. Every minnow the kingfisher gets would doubtless

have destroyed some thousand of other fishes' eggs in a single season, so that each kingfisher vastly increases the supply of our fishes. Let us hope that this obvious truth may take root in the minds of the various classes that persecute these birds before their extermination shall have robbed all nature lovers of measureless charm of their lives, and robbed us of immense supplies of food, and the sportsman of supply of game. here is probably no animal whose life, if it were roughly known, would justify our killing him for There is probably no animal woose in the throughly known, would justify our killing him for his offences: so subily intersoven are the consequences of animals acts; and on the face of the matter the present balance in the animal kingdom has been handed down through vasts periods of slow adjustment. The modern man would not have found his game swarming as he did, if the so-called "vermin" had not been a favorable factor, since he and his killing are, for all we know, as old as the present species of bird and fish, while the blind persecution of certain species, merely because they live partly on game, is new.

No one believes that the primitive savage ever killed, save for food, clothing, &c., or in self-defence.

fence.

All I have said is also applicable in principle to our two species of eagle. Portunately, in Mr. Handvill's case, the community has apparently not lost an eagle at all, but a turkey buzzard, as shown by the naked head with hairs on it and his wing dimensions, which fit the buzzard, but are nearly two feet short for an average eagle in that latitude, and the buzzards are well enough protected by popular sentiment.

A. H. THAYER.

MONADNOCK, N. H., Aug. 31.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Allow me to communicate with the writer who signs bimself G. E., Red Bank, N. J. He evidently never goes a-shooting, and if he does he perhaps does not know what a kingüsher is, or what damage he can do both to fish and nests of young birds. He is one of the bad birds of prey. I know his habits as well as the habits of the robin. I have hunted and killed him for the past twenty-five years, but do not seem to have diminished his family in the least. Mr. O. E. is evidently not acquainted with him or his habits or he would not say that the proper authorities should be directed to the killing of kingfishers. For his benefit I herewith enclose the Game laws for 1900. There is no one that takes more interest and pride in the protection of game, birds and animals than myself, and I protect them to the utmost on my property. I heartily agree with Mr. Charles A. Shriner that the eagle should not be killed, provided he is as good as Mr. Shriner says, but I think he would change his mind if he had iso or 200 fancy fowls, and they began to disappear at the rate of twenty five a week. I do not dispute the eagle's right to take a few chickens, for he is a bird that has to eat. Perhaps if he had plenty of food, like fish and kingfisher, he would not bother the chicks, but I prefer my chickens to the eagle's life. I certainly did not loose any chickens before these eagles came to our neighborhood and have not lost any since my chickens are not closed up in a barnyard. They roam at will over forty acres of ground, do not say that the eagles positively took them, for there are other birds and animals of prey around; but it seems strange that they should go while these two eagles were in the neighborhood. I have never killed any eagles before this one, and have never sen any before up our way. I think I did what any one would have done—to kill him if possible.

MEM YORK, Sept. 1.

M. HANDVILL. takes more interest and pride in the protection of

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIE The account of the killing of a large bird on the Passaic River, which was described as a baid eagle having but one or two hairs to its head, appeared in THE SUN a few days ago. It must have been a turkey buzzard, as the baid eagle has as many "hairs" buzzard, as the baid eagle has as many hairs on its head as any other eagle, the name being given it by reason of its head being white and at a distance presenting the appearance of being hald. Evolution has made the turkey buzzard baid-headed, the hairs of its head being numbered with the other things of prehistoric times. The misuske of killing the turkey buzzard for an earle was the cause of a threatened prosecution against an Englishman in this county not long ago. The scavenger is protected.

MARLINTON, W. Va., Aug. 21.

MARLINTON, W. Va., Aug. 31.

FREE SILVER.

The Great Question Which Will Not Down TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It is small wonder indeed that Bryan feels constrained to make something else besides "16 to 1" the "paramount" issue in this campaign. Doubtless after considering that issue for four years while

smarting under the pain of defeat, he realizes that the majority of the people of the United States are too honest to appeal to successfully on that line again. The moral turpitude of "16 to 1" is simply appalling. This statement is so self-evident that it is surprising that so many people who are honest at heart are deceived by it. A little earnest thinking is all that is needed to convince any candid mind of the thoroughgoing moral degeneracy of "18 to 1."

"Sixteen to 1" is guaranteed by its sponsors to raise prices. Practically on this theory prices are to be about doubled we are told. Instead of wheat at 75 cents a bushel it will be \$1.50; instead of corn at 40 cents, it will be so cents; instead of oats at 30 cents, it will be 60 cents, and so on for all the products of our soil, our mines, our mills, our factories, &c. At first view this is a glittering proposition, calculated to take away the breath, especially of that part of our population to whom a gold brick can be sold successfully.

There is a suggestion that decided action shall be deferred until the end of next week, by which But let us examine this dazzling proposition in the light of cold reason and logic. "Sixteen to "is calculated to raise prices is the claim of the Bryanites. Price is the measure of value expressed in the terms of the prevailing standard. Now there are just two ways and only two to increase the price of any of our products. One way would be to increase the demand. Double the demand for wheat and you will double the price. At the same time you have doubled the actual value of the wheat. The only other way to double the price of the wheat would be to change the standard of value. Substitute for the existing standard of value a standard worth half as much and you will double the price, but you will not increase the real value of the wheat in

the least. Now the Bryanites propose practically to double prices by the free coinage of silver at "16 to 1" in four years if he be elected President That is the alluring promise held out to the unthinking. But does any one suppose for a moment, that with normal conditions in the markets, the relation of demand to surply would be double in that short space of time. Value, intrinsic value, is determined by the re lation of demand to supply. For example does any one suppose for a moment that with normal conditions in the world the demand for wheat in the next four years will be doubled f Bryan be elected? It is clearly evident that under normal conditions the real value, the intrinsic worth of wheat, will be practically the same in the four years to come that it has been in the past four years; i. e., the relation of demand to supply will remain practically the same. The only way, then, that the Bryanites can fulfil their premie of doubling prices will be to lessen the standard of value one-half. And that is just what they will do by adopting "16 to 1." All that "16 to 1" will do or can do at the very best, will be to express the real value, the intrinsic value, the relation of demand to supply for our various products in terms of the sliver standard instead of that of the gold standard. The real value, i. e., the relation of demand to supply, remains the same in either case.

But suppose the prices are doubled, if the intrinsic value be there just the same, where, then, is the moral turplitude of the scheme? you may ask. Let us point if out, for it is just as plain as a nose on a man's face. There are about five million depositors in the savings banks of the United States. Their total deposits amount to more than two billions of dollars. Suppose you change the standard of value so that the purchasing power of a unit is only one-half of what it is to-day. Then, when these depositors demand to supply will remain practically the

you change the standard of value so that the purchasing power of a unit is only one-half of what it is to-day. Then, when these depositors are paid in this debused currency one half of their hard-earned savings is practically confiscated by the bank. For example, with wheat at \$1 per bushel under the gold standard their two billions of dollars in the savings banks will purchase two billions of bushels of wheat. With wheat at \$2 per bushel under the silver standard this two billions of dollars under the silver standard will purchase only one billion of bushels of wheat. In the meantime we are to bear in mind that the actual value of the wheat, i.e., there also not demand to supply has remained the same. Never in all the instory of the politics of the United States has a more dishonest proposition been brought before the politics of the United States has a more dis-honest proposition been brought before the people than this issue of "16 to 1," unless, indeed, we except the "flat money" scheme of the old Greenbackers of 1876. The man who votes for "16 to 1," should that issue be carried, might just as well stand at the door of the savings banks of the land with a sand-bag and compel each decoster as he or sake or

door of the saving's banks of the and with a sand-bag and compel each der ositor as he or she comes out to deliver up half that he has drawn out. Indeed, the methods of the highwayman would be quite refined as compared with the cold-blooded brutality, the mean dishonesty of out Indeed, the methods of the hishwayman would be duite refined as compared with the cold-blooded brutality, the mean dishonesty of robbing the widows and orphans and the frugal of the land by a process of law through such juggling with the standard of value. I could have more respect for the highwayman because when he filches a hundred dollars in his way he can make use of it if he succeeds in getting away. While the man who votes "16 to 1" will benefit nobody, not even himself, What difference does it make to a man if he gets a dollar a day and buys sugar for six cents a pound and flour for 80 cents a quarter, or gets \$2 and buys sugar for 12 cents a pound and flour at \$1.60 a quarter? In either case he buys inst the same amount of sugar and flour. "Sixteen to 1" will not and it cannot increase the purchasing power of a day's labor. The struggle for existence will be just as hard under "16 to 1" as it is to-day. It will take a great deal more than the alteration of the standard of value to ameliorate the conditions of the struggle for existence. On the other hand the adoption of "16 to 1" would be a great detriment to every wage earner and every one on a salary. Wages and salaries would be among the last things to rise if a new standard of value were adopted. The writer has in mind an apt fillustration, the case of a dergyman who received a salary of \$600 per annum from his congregation prior to the War of the Rebellen. Being somewhat along in years he remained in that same charge until he died in 1872. He received only \$600 per vear to the day of his death. When his successor was called the congregation gave him \$1,500. What one fails to see is the great loss to that old minister because of the debased paper currency of the war and the years that followed. The only way the old man could live was by drawing on his sayings that he had accumulated before the war. But when he came to draw out these sayings from the bank he was paid in a standard of value whose purchasing power was about 40 cents to the dollar s

say the moral furpitude of "16 to1" is appalling.

It is to be fervently hoped that but few people in the United States will be deceived by the felgiled issue of imperialism. When I see Bryan standing with his face to the East spouting out anti-imperialism and then standing with his face to the East spouting out anti-imperialism and then standing with his face to the West spouting out "16 to 1," darkening counsel by words, I call him the medicine man from Nebraska, the necromancer, the witch doctor. Bryan used his inflience, his voice and his pen to secure the ratification of the treaty with Spain. We are informed that without his help a two-thirds majority could not have been obtained for it in the United States Senate. He himself boasts he helped to launch the country from a career of imperialism, as he calls it, for the express purpose of rescuing the country from the extreme danger of imperialism. (Usually people who start a fire are guilty of arson, although they may afterward help to extinguish it.) By this course Bryan thinks he sees the chance to ride into power and establish "16to1." So this medicine man from Nebraska has his emudge fire of imperialism kindled and smokning. Standing by it he cries out to bewidered voters: "There, there, I see him. There he comes. By the gods, 'tis the spirit of old King George III. I see him coming up out of the earth to take possession of McKinley. There is only one way to avert disaster. Everybody run to the polis and vote for me, the great unclicine man from Nebraska." And all this is to blind the eyes of honest men and secure their support to the dishonest scheme of "16 to 1." Again we assert the moral turpitude of "16 to 1." Again we assert the moral turpitude of "16 to 1." Again we assert the moral turpitude of "16 to 1." Stone Ridde, N. Y., Sept. 3. STONE RIDGE, N. Y., Sept. 3.

Some Commercial Travellers Hear Bryan's

Eloquence and Report Thereon. DO THE EDIDOR OF THE SUD-Sir; Bister Bryan shoke here lasd nighd, ad seberal cobbercial trablers frob Dew Yorg who thoughdlessly exbosed thebselves do the draught are this bordig udable do dalk ub their goods. As they caddot therefore dake orders, they respectfully request that THE SUD prind this for the Idforbation ob their ebloyers. Ker choo! Ker choo!

WHEELING, W. Va., Sept. 7.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir May I be admitted to your galaxy of notables? JOHN GIGGLE EAGLE BRIDGE, N. Y., Sept. 7.

Lives of great men still remind us

We can all be asinine: And, departing, leave behind us Hoofprints on the sands of Tim

SHORT HISTORY OF BRYAN.

A Neighbor's Investigations Give the Follow-

ing Striking Result. From a Private Letter from Lincoln, Neb., to a Citizen of New York. "Bryan came here about 1885, having just

been admitted to the bar. He was then about 25 years old. During the next three years he attempted to practise law, did as much as any young lawyer, a stranger in a new State, would be expected to do, but his practice was confined mostly to cases before the Justice of the Peace and before the County Court where the jurisdiction is limited to \$500 think he probably had a few cases in the Ditrict Court, but the District Judge, who was on the bench at that time, told me to-day the during the entire three years that he atternoteto practise law he did not appear before him n court more than three or four times and as he puts it, had absolutely no practice whatever. At the end of the three years he was a candidate for Congress from this district; was elected and served four years. Since that time he has not attempted to maintain any law office here, but has been travelling over the country making political speeches "When he came here he was not worth any

thing.

"I understand his father-in-law built him a house that probably cost \$1,500, and at the time he entered politics, I do not suppose by was worth \$500. As far as any one here knows. he is in that same financial condition to-day I think it is generally thought that he has made some money by speaking and lecturing and on his book. He may have had considerable money given him by his free silver friends, but, if so, there is no evidence of it.

"He was 40 years old last March. "He has never been retained in any case of importance and is not considered anything of

a lawyer. "He has never been connected with or placed in touch with any financial or commercial or manufacturing business whatever.

"He has never even served as Alderman our City Council. "He has never had any experience in our

Legislature. "If he is fitted to assume the duties of the President of this country, the greatest nation on earth, then the idea that I have always had

for that office, has been an illusion. "His stock in trade is that he is a smooth talker, especially before the ordinary political crowd, who gather during an exciting political campaign. He studies to work up catchy, high-sounding expressions like "Thou shalt not press down upon the brow of labor this cross of gold and crown of thorns" and his

rot on imperialism and militarism. "That is all there is to him: he is a political agitator, utterly unqualified and unfitted to be placed in the Presidential chair. I cannot think for a moment there is any danger of such a thing happening."

Anarchy Marches Behind Bryan.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: What an a private citizen do to help reelect President McKinley? Private personal discussions are of comparatively little value, as in political argument one man merely waits for the other to get through what he has to say, that he may bring forward some pet argument of his own.

I feel it would be a terrible calamity were Mr. Bryan to be elected, as he does not represent the right element of the country. I wonder if people who talk Bryan realize what they are doing. Do you suppose they take into account the combination they are working for-Bryan Altgeld, Tillman, Pettigrew, and others of that ype? Aside from Mr. Bryan's unsound finandal ideas, which are enough to condemn him in themselves, does he not represent the shifting, insatisfied and unsuccessful element?

Four years ago I was in Stoux Falls, S. D. just before the election, at the time of the big silver parade in that city. At the head of the procession marched Senator Pettigrew, ex-Gov. Boies of Iowa, and others There were many banners carried, some of them with mottoes that would have been suppressed by the police of most cities, and one of them I remember distinctly because of its red tinge of anarchy. It was to this effect, and I can quote it verbatim, as I wrote it down while standing on the sidewalk:

HUNG IN NEW YORK AND BOSTON LIKE HORSE

THIEVES IN TEXAS. How can people of intelligence and standing vote for this sort of thing? They get very angry if the word Anarchist is used in relation to Mr Bryan, his following or his platform; yet is not the above a distinct proof that such is the character of those who are blindly walking with him? Is not the same platform presented now as then, and are not the same leaders working

for the same object? What a dreadful thing it would be to seat as President a man who continually stirs up sectional feeling and appeals to prejudice and passion rather than to intellect and judgment. Personally I am well satisfied with an Administration that has raised our country where it now naturally belongs, to be the leading nation of the world, and has in some way facilitated our exports, not only of cereals and crude materials, but manufactured goods, so that in three years we have received more money from the rest of the world than for one hundred years

preceding. Imperialism, whatever that may be, is only a campaign bugaboo, and will not stand analysis. and this talk of Cesar and empire is about as foolish as anything we have heard in that line

for many years. Mr. McKinley has had hard problems to solve, and it is very easy to criticise, but does any body believe that Mr. Bryan would have done half as well in the last four years? NEW YORK, Sept. 8.

A Workingman's Letter to Mr. Olney. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. Olney

has told us what he thinks would be the conditions Now, he also says he does not like the Democratic ticket nor the platform of his party. I always gave Mr. Olney credit for the possession of a good quality of gray matter, and would like his opinion of the conditions would be after the election of M:

Bryan.

tends?"

I must have bread and butter, and therefore an honest dollar and a chance to carn it. My opinion at the moment is that under Bryan I shall go hungry as I did from 1893 to 1897. M) family are doing comfortably now, thank you NEW YORK, Sept. 7.

Baldness and the Derby Hat. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Let me say it

is not the hat, but the kind of hat, whose wearing coduces to baldness. The hat is necessary to keep the head cool in summer, but it should be the soft fe that The victous derby constricts the scalp, kerps the blood away, kills the hair, causing baldness. felt hat does not do this and does not cause baidness. Witness its use in the South and the absence of baid ness-you see few bald men there. Witness the use of the derby at the North and the prevalance of P. IAREP, M. D. ASBURY PARK, Sept. 7.

Reunion of Beans in Boston. From the Boston Herald.

The fifth annual reunion of the descendants of John Bean of Excier (1660) was held in this city yesierday, Commercial and Pilgrim halls, 694 Washington street, being used for the gathering. About 120 Beans, large and small, old, young and middle-agod, came from all parts of New England and several Western States, and it proved to be a happy family

From the Indianapolis Press. "I just know she is ten years older than she adnits," said the woman with the sharp nose. "How?" asked the other half of the duc.

"Why would she be letting that sixteen-year-old

kid make love to her if she were as young as she pre-

From Brooklyn Life. Penelope-Did you have a nice season? Perdita-Not a bit I was engaged to a lot of men I didn't care for.